

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KEMPSEY PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY,11th JUNE, 2007 AT 7.30 p.m. AT KEMPSEY COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Present :- Mr. D. Harrison, in the Chair

Mr. N. Atkins; Mr. K. Blackwell; Mr. N. Brookes; Mrs. C. Campbell; Mrs. A. Hart; Mr. J. Michael and Mr. T. Ward.

Also in Attendance :- Mr. R. Bullock, County Councillor; Mr. M. Biddle, District Councillor; Inspector C. Griffiths and P.C. A. Naulls. Mrs. M. Walters, District Councillor arrived during discussions under Minute No. 6121.

Apologies for absence were received from Ms M. Baker; Mrs. K. Biddle; Mrs. P. Gerrard, Mr. M. Legg and Mrs. J. Jones.

6108 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were none.

6109 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday, 14th May, 2007, having been previously circulated to the members, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

6110 MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the Policy Committee held on Monday, 14th May, 2007 having been previously circulated to the members, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

6111 PREVIOUS MINUTES

There were no items for up-date.

6112 COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT ON LOCAL ISSUES

Mr. Bullock reported he had dealt with the highway problems which had been drawn to his attention at the previous meeting and that there would be a County Council Meeting the following day about the proposed re-cycling plant at Norton.

6113 DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Mr. Biddle reported on the affordable housing on the new development at Main Road and the South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy. He then outlined his reasons for not supporting the Parish Council's request to the District Council for the latest planning application in respect of The Gurkha Knight to be determined by the full Planning Committee rather than being approved on an officer's delegated decision. The Chairman pointed out that the Parish Council were not happy with the way in which the democratic planning process was going at Malvern and pointed out to Mr. Biddle that a booklet which had been produced by the District Council advised its Members that their role was to represent the interests of the community and the constituents in their Ward. Having asked for this particular application to go to full Planning Committee, the Parish Council were concerned that they had not received the support of their two District Councillors with their request.

6114 CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence, both for report and for information had been made available for inspection by Parish Council Members between 7.00 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.

(a) Kempsey Day Care Association – Request for assistance with transport costs

The Parish Council delegated this matter to their representative for the elderly/disabled.

(b) Church Street Initiative – Job specification for P.C. representatives on outside bodies

The Clerk was asked to advise that no job description had yet been supplied and that the matter would be discussed further at the July Meeting.

(d) WCC – Parish Paths Partnership Scheme 2007/2008

The Parish Council had noted that the Parish Paths Officer wished to hand over the administration and the accompanying paperwork for this Scheme. The Clerk was asked to ascertain the present financial position with the County Council and any on-going or outstanding tasks. The Parish Council resolved that in future the Parish Paths Scheme would be administered through the Parish Office.

(h) MHDC – New Planning Leaflets

These documents were handed to the Chairman.

(i) CALC – Malvern Hills Area – Annual Meeting

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman agreed to attend this meeting.

(j) Kempsey Tennis Club – Tree overhanging tennis court

The Parish Council noted the offer to plant a replacement tree. They resolved that the Tennis Club be allowed to remove the tree adjacent to the tennis courts subject to an appropriate replacement tree being planted in the tree strip on the left of the Playing Field entrance

(k) Kempsey Youth Club – Paid Youth Worker

The Parish Council resolved to write a letter of support to Elgar Housing Association.

(m) and (p) Worcestershire Wildlife Trust – Review of special wildlife sites in Worcestershire

These documents were passed to the Chairman of the Commons and Hams Committee.

(n) Mrs. D. Bailey – Re-dedication of tomb of Kempsey V.C. holder

The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman agreed to officially represent the Parish Council at the service. Other members also agreed to attend.

(o) WCC – Temporary Closure Order /Temporary One Way System Order – Taylors Lane

The Parish Council noted the temporary closure and temporary one way system for Taylors Lane. The Clerk was asked to ascertain whether the County Council had informed the organisers of the Car Boot Sale at The Ketch Field about the proposed closure and one-way system? She was asked to remind the County Council that the Parish Council had previously asked for Taylors Lane to be made one way from the A.38 to Norton Road. Would it now be possible for this system to remain in force permanently?

6115 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

WORKS AT THE CROWN AREA

The Clerk reported that the County Council had confirmed that the amenity area at The Crown Area Bus Stop formed part of the highway. As such, the Parish Council resolved to ask the County Council to cut back the shrubs and plants in this area in a sympathetic manner in accordance with the advice from the Police.

6116 PLANNING REPORT

(a) Decisions made under delegated Powers

MH 681/07 – 2 The Oaks – No objections

MH 776/07 – 1 Napleton Lane – No objections

(b) The Chairman reported the recent planning decisions made by the District Council. The Parish Council resolved to remind the Planning Enforcement Officer about the window which overhung the pavement in Post Office Lane in contravention of planning conditions.

(c) Stonehall Farm, Green Street – Report on enforcement matter

The Parish Council Chairman reported on the email from the District Council's Planning Enforcement Officer following a site inspection.

(d) Nut trees adjacent to Footpath 568 at rear of Main Road development site

The Clerk was asked to point out to the District Council that only two small bunches of nut bushes now remained. Was it the intention of the site developer to re-instate the nut trees adjacent to the Alley and would it be possible for the trees to be covered by a Tree Preservation Order?

6117 COMMONS AND HAMS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Committee Chairman reported that un-authorized uses of common land continued and that a further reminder letter needed to be sent to residents living adjacent to commons. The Parish Council agreed. It was also agreed to follow up the letter with visits in order to reinforce the official position. The Parish Council noted that their second letter and follow-up phone call to Teal Turf had still not been acknowledged. They resolved to take up the offer from the owner of The Gurkha Knight to remove the concrete path which he had laid and to re-instate the eroded areas of Kempsey Common in front of his property.

6118 RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Progress reports on (a) Fencing around children's play area and (b) Fencing on Playing Field

In the absence of the Committee Chairman, the Clerk was asked to include these items on the Agenda for the July Parish Council Meeting.

6119 COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Committee Chairman reported that the cupboard in the Foyer had been completed. The Parish Council resolved to use the remaining £15 from the funds retained on behalf of the former Community Centre Committee in order to paint the cupboard. He pointed out that the tenancy matters which had been discussed in Confidential Session at the last Parish Council Meeting had been resolved in a satisfactory manner.

6120 AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 2006/2007 BY EXTERNAL AUDITOR

A copy of the Annual Governance Statement had been circulated to each Member with their Agenda. The Members unanimously confirmed that they were able to answer in the affirmative to each of the questions on the form to be returned to the External Auditor.

6121 DELEGATED POWERS TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

The Parish Council resolved, with some safeguards, to amend their Standing Orders in order to extend delegated powers so that Committee Chairman could, in consultation with the Parish Council Chairman, the Parish Council Vice-Chairman and the Clerk make delegated decisions on urgent matters on behalf of their Committee. By so doing, urgent matters could then be dealt with very quickly rather than having to wait for the next Parish Council Meeting -but would have to be reported to this meeting. The Clerk was asked to draw up a list for each Committee when it may be appropriate for a delegated decision to be made. The matter would then be discussed again at the July Parish Council Meeting, as would the Clerk's current upper limit of £50 for emergency repairs etc.

6122 RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS/RECONCILIATION OF BALANCES TO 31/5/07

The receipts, payments/bank reconciliation to 31st May, 2007 had been previously circulated to the members. The Clerk reported that Mr. Harrison had made the monthly inspection for May and had found everything to be in order. Mr. Harrison confirmed this to be correct.

6123 CONFIRMATION OF ACTION

The Parish Council ratified payment of the following urgent accounts which had been made under delegated powers :-

Staff salaries for May as on the list circulated to Members and annexed to the Signed Minutes

Mrs. S. Cordell – Community Centre Cleaning to 14.5.07 - £50.00

Paul Biddle – Community Centre works - £795.00 (To be paid from funds retained on behalf of the former Community Centre Committee)

New Farm Grounds Maintenance – Playing Field Mowing - £105.74 (inc. £15.74 VAT)

6124 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Parish Council resolved to authorise payment of the following accounts :-

Mrs. A.P. Halford - Petty Cash for May - £21.80

Severn Trent Water – Community Centre - £260.50

R. Clarke – Grass Mowing at Community Centre - £35.00

Worcs. CALC – Training - £158.63 (inc. £23.63 VAT)

Sports Fields Ltd. – Ground Works - £376.00 (inc. £56.00 VAT)

PDS – Weedkiller on Playing Field - £411.25 (inc. £61.25 VAT)

New Farm Grounds Maintenance – Playing Field Mowing - £105.74 (inc. £15.74 VAT)

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.27 p.m.

Signed at the next ensuing meeting of
Kempsey Parish Council

Chairman of such next ensuing meeting

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, 14TH MAY, 2007

DEMOCRATIC HALF HOUR

MR. EAMON MULLEN OF NAPLETON LANE – Referred to recent correspondence about extra football pitches. The use of common land for this purpose had now been put on the back burner as the pitches at the School could be used during the next season. However, the youth teams still needed access to a bigger area in the long term

MRS. LOUISE KISSLINGBURY OF CHURCH STREET – Asked if it would be possible for Poop Scoop signs to be erected outside her house? Advised to contact the District Council's Dog Warden.

P.C. ALAN NAULLS – Presented his monthly report. Advised that for a 6 to 8 week period incidents of anti-social behavior and criminal damage had dropped. Over the period since the Annual Parochial Meeting, things had escalated considerably to the point where there had been 9 incidents of anti-social behavior, 14 incidents of criminal damage plus incidents of theft and burglary which he outlined. He asked parishioners to bear with the Police who were doing their best including working with other agencies.

Parish Council Vice-Chairman Mr. Terry Ward – Asked whether it was possible for the Police to put the fear of God into the parents of young offenders?

Parish Council Member Mr. Neville Brookes - Parishioners had been urged by the police to bear with them. They had patiently done so - but the situation still hadn't improved. How many arrests had been made during the past month? Parishioners paid a large element of their council tax towards policing. That sort of money could be used to employ private security guards who would provide the whole parish with 24 hours a day cover. The current level of policing in Kempsey was not enough. The Police needed to be seen around and start arresting offenders.

Parish Council Member Mr. John Michael – re-iterated Mr. Brookes' remarks about how patient and forbearing parishioners had been. Action was needed from the Police.

Parish Council Member Ms. Mel Baker – The Police know who the offenders are - so why are they doing nothing?

Parish Council Member Mrs. Ann Hart – The Police know who the offenders are so the parents must be made to pay for the damage which their children are causing.

Parish Council Member Mrs. Kim Biddle – We know that it is only a handful of families who are responsible. How does Kempsey compare to other problem areas including Upton?

P.C. Naulls - Kempsey is top of the list.

Mr. Barry Kisslingbury of Church Street – Problems are occurring in the early hours of the mornings. Where the Police aware that youths were sleeping rough on The Hams?

Parish Council Member Mr. Ken Blackwell had witnessed about 12 youths playing football on the busy A.38 road early in the morning.

Parish Council Member Mrs. Ann Hart complained about parking on pavements and on double yellow lines around Kempsey Primary School..